



St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

Chief James W. Ransom
Chief Monica M. Jacobs
Chief Mark H. Garrow
Sub-Chief Ron LaFrance Jr.
Sub-Chief Pamela D. Brown
Sub-Chief Stacy A. Adams

PRESS RELEASE

For release:
Kantenha/October 20, 2009

For more information:
David T. Staddon,
Director Public Information
St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
Tel: (518) 358-2272 ext. 286

FIRST AMERICANS IGA STORE TO REMAIN OPEN

Downsizing and New Management to Result in Increased Efficiency

Akwesasne Territory— Community members have enjoyed the convenience of having a major grocery store located within the Akwesasne Territory since 2005. The location of the store in Akwesasne means that residents don't have to travel far to get necessities and the store itself has been a source of pride within the community. Recently it has been undergoing many changes and improvements to better serve its customers and the community.

"We're working on downsizing the store to take it more in line with the market demand," remarked Sub-Chief Stacy Adams and LCC Board Chairperson. "We want to make sure that the store is run on an efficient business basis and in accordance with generally accepted business practices for a retail operation of its size." Recent changes in management have resulted in fresher meat and produce along with improved customer service.

"Right now the IGA is going through a transition period," said Adams. "We hope that the community can be patient with these changes because that will mean improvements." The elimination of the dollar store, previously housed in the IGA building, has resulted in empty shelf space in the store. Plans are to streamline the grocery's inventory so that it will turn over more quickly and reduce expenses. This will provide space within the building that can be used for other purposes, yet to be determined.

The store will soon be installing a new general manager for the business, possibly as early as this week. "Some new faces at the store are all part of the process by which we are upgrading our retail grocery operation," noted Adams. "Any business is only as good as the people who manage it."

As part of the effort to maintain customer loyalty and attract new customers, every Tuesday, Canadian customers can make their purchases "at par" with the American dollar. The IGA offers full-service grocery shopping, including a deli, fresh produce, a fresh meat counter, fresh juice, along with a variety of pre-packaged food, canned foods as well as frozen foods.

#

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Council is the duly elected and federally recognized government of the St. Regis Mohawk People.

Helping Build A Better Tomorrow

412 State Route 37
Akwesasne, New York 13655
Phone: 518-358-2272